

**75
YEARS**

of continuous activity

**MARCH
1992**

HAMATEUR CHATTER

CLUB CALL - W9RH

Publication of the Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club, Inc.
The World's Oldest Continuously Active Amateur Radio Club

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2nd VP - Fred Linn, W9NZF 377-3280
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Marv Rutishauser, WB9PKL 782-3633
Orv Stewart, KA9ONQ 527-2663
Roger Zaun, W9UVV 242-4931



FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK:

The meeting on February 27th was enjoyed by many - 37 people attended with 5 visitors. Thanks should go to Roger Zaun, W9UVV for getting our speaker. Alex Cooper, Chief Engineer of the Transformer Division of MTE Corporation, gave us a look at transformers and how they work.

We need help in several areas:

We need an Election Committee for our election in May.

Field Day in June needs your input. If you have not participated before, how about this year?

We also need reporters or news items for the *Hamateur Chatter*. The Club pays postage for it, so how about contributing to it with an editorial or news item. Get it to Joe, KE9LL, by the first of the month. Start now for next month (April).

The Friday night net on 28.400 MHz is also looking for your check-in.

I see 12 members running this Club. How about YOUR input? We have your QRM! Get on frequency PLEASE, and be active or Joe will list you as a silent key! Ed Wille, W9PWG

MEETING NOTICE

The next meeting of the Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club will be Thursday, March 26th, at the Wauwatosa Savings and Loan, 76th and State. The doors will open around 7:00 PM and the meeting will begin at 7:30. See the Program Notice elsewhere in this issue.

PROGRAM NOTICE

A color video tape on "packet radio" will be shown, followed up by a discussion and a question and answer period. This will be conducted by our fellow member, Les Petersen, W9YCV, who has had considerable operating experience in digital communications.

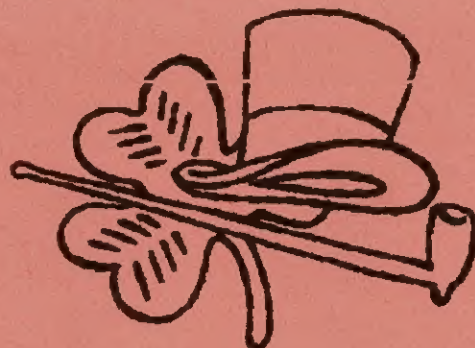
by Roger Zaun, W9UVV

MRAC-VEC EXAMINATION DATES

On the 3rd Tuesday of each month, exams are given from 6:30-9:30 PM in the church hall at 117th & Cleveland. The next dates are 3/17 and 4/21.

There are no Saturday exam at this time.

Please arrive as close to the beginning of the testing session as possible so that all exams are completed by the end of the session. Bring along your original license and two good quality photocopies, two additional forms of ID, a pen and \$5.00 for the exam fee (Novice exams exempt). To register in advance, send a post card on which you have printed the grade of license for which you are applying, your name, address and telephone number to: MRAC-VEC
% Jack Krause, 1737 N. 116th St.
Wauwatosa, WI 53226, 744-6999
or % Ed Seruga, 3840 S. 43rd St.
Milwaukee, WI 53220, 545-6299



EDITORIAL

"REAL RADIOMEN"

by Barry Wiseman, N6CSW/O

These hard economic times we're going through could have a profound effect on amateur radio. Some hams - particularly those that are unemployed - may choose to abandon the hobby, at least temporarily. Others will no doubt do whatever it takes to stay on the air. This may mean returning to repairable American gear or getting back into homebrewing. Some 'state of the art' appliance operators may have to become 'Real Radiomen' to stay in the hobby. I think they're going to enjoy the experience.

For years the central theme in the propaganda of mainstream U.S. ham magazines has been that amateurs should always be 'state of the art' and at the cutting edge of technology. They've discouraged the use of older/vintage/tube type gear; "tubes are very hard to get", "the equipment tends to be very unreliable", etc. The only alternative - if one wanted to follow the party line - was to plunk down a grand or two for a Japanese transceiver. If the rig developed problems, the only thing to do was to send it back to the factory. Hams were discouraged from making repairs themselves. The American 'ham' was transformed into an 'appliance operator' who's technical prowess was limited to putting up dipoles and wiring mike cords.

One of the hopes I have for the newly formed Vintage SSB net is that it will be a showplace for the good old U.S. made gear and made gear and may provide inspiration for those 'appliance operators' aspiring to be 'Real Radiomen'. We can show them that U.S. gear is not "junk", it's easy to restore and repair, and that there was ham radio before Kenwood, Yaesu and Icom.

This recession/depression may be good for amateur radio.

This editorial appeared in the February 1992 issue of *Electric Radio Magazine*. Reprinted by permission.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

Articles and information for the newsletter should be received by KE9LL by the 1st of the month. If received after that date, the item cannot be guaranteed to be in that month's edition. The targeted mailing date is the 15th of the month. Events which occur between the 1st and the 20th of the month should be submitted for the previous month's newsletter. Your cooperation in this is appreciated.



ARRL Bulletins

ARLB021 WARC REPORT 3

Negotiations at the World Administrative Radio conference tentatively indicate that amateur bands below 30 MHz worldwide will be unchanged. The only possible change that had been anticipated, an improved 40-meter band, now seems unlikely. On the other hand, expansion of HF broadcasting below 10 MHz will probably be less than many countries had proposed. The United States had proposed a realignment of the amateur and broadcasting bands at 7 MHz to eliminate the overlap between the two services, while retaining 300 KHz of bandwidth for amateurs by shifting the amateur allocation down 100 KHz and broadcasters up 100 KHz. This proposal had been expected to face an uphill battle and now appears lost in light of the relatively small gains below 10 MHz by broadcast interests. At this point, however, none of the above-mentioned is absolutely certain. The conference is scheduled to end on March 6th.

ARLP008 PROPAGATION DE KT7H

Conditions during last weekend's DX contest were much better than expected. Quiet geomagnetic conditions were evidenced by very low K indices. VP2ML reported excellent openings on 10 meters over the polar path from North America to Europe, and that the east coast of the United States experienced west coast style openings to Asia on 15 and 20 meters.

Over the week, the solar flux stayed near 200. Solar region 7056 has produced several flares, and one, OMNGG 16, had a delayed effect on the 19th and 20th. The author of this bulletin was unable to effectively copy the DX Bulletin from W1AW in Seattle at 0200 and 0500 UTC on Friday morning after the A index had risen to 40 and conditions were disturbed.

The solar flux will rise to a peak near 270 around March 3rd. Over the next few days the disturbed geomagnetic indices should quiet down, but conditions will probably remain disturbed. Propagation will probably be good for the 160 meter SSB contest this weekend.

SILENT KEY(PAW)

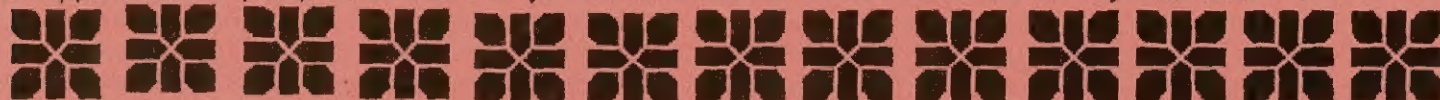
Pib Loses 9th Life

During the past month, Pib, family cat of Ed Wille, W9PWG, passed away of a heart attack. Ed noticed that one morning Pib didn't show up according to his usual habit. Pib was found and rushed to the Emergency Room, but they were unable to save him. Ed and Sue have two more cats at home to help ease the loss, but Pib is still very much missed. By the way, his name stood for 'pain in the butt.' A typical cat to the end.

MILWAUKEE AREA NET INFORMATION

TIME	DAY	MHz	SUBJECT
9:00 PM	Monday	146.67	Milwaukee-Waukesha ARES Net
9:00 PM	Tuesday	145.13	MAARS Roundtable
8:00 PM	Wednesday	28.365	Milwaukee Chapter of 10-10 International
9:00 PM	Thursday	146.91	Computer Net
9:00 PM	Friday	28.400	W9RH on the Air - MRAC Club Station Activity
10:00 AM	Sunday	443.800	FM38 Link to 146.88 Baraboo Swap Net
8:00 PM	Sunday	28.365	Milwaukee Chapter of 10-10 International
8:30 PM	Sunday	146.91	Information Net
9:00 PM	Sunday	146.91	Swap Net

The 2 meter frequencies are -600 KHz offset FM repeaters. FM38 is +5 Mhz offset, tone 114.8. The 10 meter frequencies are upper sideband (USB). If there are nets you would like added to this list, contact Joe Rayome, KE9LL.



HF Fox Hunting Anyone?

Pancho Doneis, KA9OFA, would like to get involved in HF fox hunting (hidden transmitter searches). Most fox hunts in the area are currently organized on 2 meters. If using the HF bands for this purpose sounds interesting, contact Pancho.

NEW MEMBERS



Please welcome the following to MRAC membership:

Brian S. Pugins - N9NRI
Mark Zirbes - Associate
Kate Kedney - KA9MWT

SWAPFEST SCHEDULE

March 22nd-Tri-County ARC, Jefferson County Fairgrounds. Admission \$4. Open to the public at 8:00 AM

April 5th - Madison Area Repeater Assn. Dane County Exposition Center. Forum Bldg. Admission \$5. Open to the public at 8:00 AM

ARRL BULLETINS CONT.

ARLB023 IARU KOREA PROJECT

The IARU will participate in a project to establish Amateur Radio in the Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea scheduled to begin in May, 1992. Several IARU National societies have offered their support to the project, which is based on preliminary discussions held in Pyongyang earlier this year, where the authorities of the DPRK indicated their positive attitude toward it. The project group is led by Dr. Seppo Sisatto, OH1VR, and the coordinator is IARU President Richard L. Baldwin, W1RU, both veterans of the 1991 Albania project team. The announcement was made in Torremolinos, Spain, during the 1992 World Administrative Radio Conference.

ARLB022 FCC CODE FREE NEWS

The FCC has denied requests that it reconsider the establishment a code free technician class license. Objections to the Commissions order of December 13, 1990, had sought special call signs for such licensees and privileges different from those granted by the order. Some disputed the need for a code free license in the amateur service. The Commission denied the requests in part by saying that none of them met the standards for petitions for reconsideration and none presented any facts or raised any issue not already considered in the order.

ARLX009 HAM RADIO DRAMA

The long awaited *Readers Digest* story about Ned Raub, W1RAN, and Seth Keo, XU1SS, has now appeared. The title is "Rescue By Radio," written by Mel White (March 1992 issue). The story recounts W1RAN's efforts to free Cambodian ham Piseth Keo from a refugee camp on the Thai-Cambodian border and to reunite with his family. Amateur radio played a pivotal role in the effort.

EDITOR'S COMMENTS by KE9LL

Don't Complain - Get Involved

I hope those of you who have not been that active in the past will read President Wille's message carefully. Rather than sitting back and complaining about how things are done, get up and get involved. The Officers and the Board are more apt to listen to the suggestions of someone who is active in Club activities. So, if you want your ideas to be listened to, become more active! This is YOUR club.

Pets Are Family Members Too!

To those who might be inclined to object to reporting the death of a pet in the silent key column, I can only say that pets are as much a part of the family as a spouse or a child. It has been policy of this publication to report the death of family members of the membership and as long as I am editor, pets will be included as appropriate.

That's all for this month, see you in April (and that's no joke).

ARES REPORT by KE9LL

SEVERE WX REPORTING COVERED AT MEETING

Sherm Carr, W9NGT, gave his annual presentation on "Severe Weather" at the March meeting of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) for Milwaukee and Waukesha counties. The procedures, criteria and format are listed on page 5 of this issue. It is recommended that you place this sheet in a prominent place near your operating station so that it will be available should you have need of it during a severe weather event. After reviewing the procedures and criteria, Mr. Carr talked about personal safety while spotting. His basic message was that unless you have unlimited visibility, two clear paths out, one minute to shelter and know the path and behavior of the particular event, GET TO SHELTER.

SULLIVAN TO GET PACKET RADIO SOON

A mention of the facilities available for ARES at Sullivan Weather was made. A packet radio station is included and is expected to be on-line soon. Packet procedures will be disseminated in the near future.

VERBATIM RELAY OF INFO A MUST

Reports of WX information to Sullivan as well as the details of Watches and Warnings or requests for informations must be relayed as accurately as humanly possible. Decisions are made relying on the reports of hams. We have a reputation of providing good data. We must all do our best to maintain that reputation.

SEVERE WX NETS INFO

Severe Weather Nets are held whenever conditions warrant on **146.67 MHz**, with links on 145.25 and 145.82. The 146.91 repeater runs a liason net on their frequency for those who are not able to access the regular frequencies. Joe Rayome, KE9LL, ARES Liason



ELMER

by Rich Regent, K9GDF





THE AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE, INC.

LEADERSHIP OFFICIAL

WISCONSIN

SECTION EMERGENCY COORDINATOR, WB9SMM

ARES SEVERE WEATHER PROCEDURE, CRITERIA, AND MESSAGE FORMAT

• ASSIST SECTION MANAGER
• SECTION EMERG COORDINATOR
• SECTION TRAFFIC MANAGER
• AFFILIATED CLUB COORDINATOR
• BULLETIN MANAGER
• EMERGENCY COORDINATOR
• DISTRICT EMERG COORDINATOR
• NET MANAGER
• OO COORDINATOR
• PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER
• STATE GOVERNMENT LIAISON
• TECHNICAL COORDINATOR
• ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER
• NTS OFFICIAL
• QSL BUREAU MANAGER
OST-
OFFICIAL JOURNAL

A. Unless otherwise indicated by the Weather Service, only one or more of the events meeting the following criteria are reportable:

<u>Event</u>	<u>Report</u>
1. Tornado on the ground	Tornado
2. Funnel cloud aloft and rotating	Funnel cloud
3. Winds 55mph or higher	High winds
4. Hail, one-half inch or larger	Hail
5. Actual damage or flooding	Damage/flooding

B. Message format for reporting severe weather:

1. Time of occurrence
2. Exact location
3. Severe weather event from (A) above
4. Source of report if other than the reporting station

C. Reporting procedure:

1. Call the NCS and use one of the five criteria to indicate a valid report.
2. NCS will indicate "(call sign) GO AHEAD".
3. Transmit the report at longhand dictation speed using message format in (B) above, without repeating your call sign.
4. NCS will respond with a simple "ROGER".
5. Weather Service will also "ROGER".

Example:

Station calling: "WB9 ALPHA BRAVO CHARLIE ... HAIL"
NCS: "WB9ABC...GO AHEAD".
Station calling: "AT 4:35, HWY 20 AND 36, NEAR WATERFORD, RACINE
COUNTY, 3/4 INCH HAIL"
NCS: "REPEAT THE TIME, PLEASE"
Station calling: "4:35"
NCS: "ROGER, NCS CLEAR"
Weather Service: "WEATHER SERVICE, ROGER"

TRANSMISSION IS COMPLETED !!!

D. Be available for follow-up information if necessary, or as requested.

E. Follow-up message:

1. Call the NCS, using the word "FOLLOW-UP".
2. Start the message with:
"REFERENCE THE REPORT OF (event), OCCURRED AT (time)"
3. Follow with added or requested information.

F. Be alert and note all information disseminated by the NCS or Weather Service operator.
